

I. INTRODUCTION

The Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT) proposes to undertake a replacement of Bridge 463. The bridge carries Paddock Road (County Road 30) over Corks Point Ditch in Blackbird Hundred, New Castle County, and is located approximately 1,600 feet south of the junction of Paddock Road with Smyrna Landing Road (Road 485) (Figure 1). The area is rural in character, with a mixture of agricultural land, woodland, and exurban residential lots.

DelDOT contracted with the Cultural Resource Group of Louis Berger & Associates, Inc. (Berger), to perform architectural investigations as part of the preliminary planning for the proposed replacement. The purpose of the investigations was to identify architectural resources within the area of potential effect (APE) currently listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, the Federal government's list of buildings, structures, sites, objects, and districts worthy of preservation. Federal legislation requires the identification, evaluation, and treatment of cultural resources impacted by publicly financed undertakings. These legislative mandates include Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended; Section 101 (b) (4) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended; the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's Procedures for the Protection of Historic Properties (36 CFR 800); and Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966, as amended.

Berger conducted architectural and historical research and fieldwork for this project during October and November 1999. Properties immediately adjacent to the proposed improvements constituted the APE for the investigation. Preliminary research focused on examining survey files at the Delaware State Historic Preservation Office (Delaware SHPO) in order to identify any previously surveyed and documented resources within the project's APE. One architectural resource located within the APE had been previously inventoried. The project researcher also gathered historical information from Delaware SHPO historic contexts for use in developing a historical narrative describing the evolution of the project area and outlining evaluation criteria for National Register eligibility.

Fieldwork identified no additional resources more than 50 years old within the APE. A Delaware SHPO Cultural Resource Survey (CRS) Update form was completed for the previously inventoried resource.

Fieldwork, research, and report preparation activities for this project were undertaken following the Delaware SHPO's *Guidelines for Architectural and Archaeological Surveys in Delaware* (Delaware State Historic Preservation Office [SHPO] 1993). The investigations were performed under the supervision of Berger Principal Architectural Historian Martha Bowers. Architectural Historian Philip E. Pendleton performed the fieldwork and research activities and authored this report. (A copy of Mr. Pendleton's resume is presented in Appendix B.) The report was edited by Anne Moiseev. Graphics were prepared by Jacqueline Horsford.

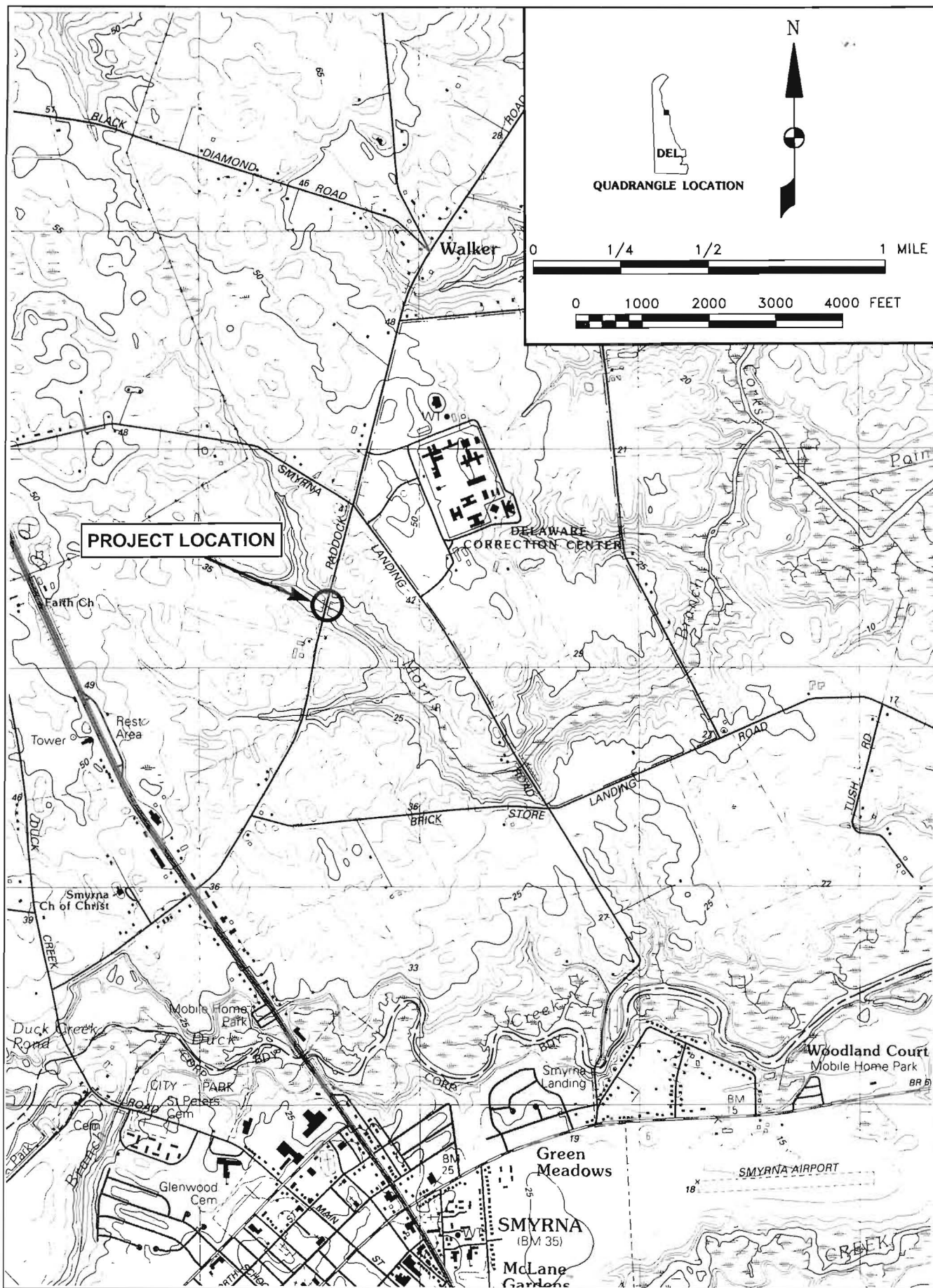


FIGURE 1: Project Location Map

SOURCE: USGS 7.5 Minute Quadrangle, Smyrna, DE 1993